UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/754,375	01/09/2004	Velda Bartek	RSW9-2003-0211US1 (7161-1	7782

			EXAMINER
46320	7590	12/05/2006	ULRICH, NICHOLAS S

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2112	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/754,375	BARTEK ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Nicholas S. Ulrich	2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 January 2004</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-16</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-16</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>09 January 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/09/2004</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-16 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2.   Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention lacks patentable utility.

Claims 7- 10 all lack a concrete and tangible result. The claim limitations are merely a list of the embodiments of the system and never produce a concrete result making the claims intangible.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3.   Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 11, 12, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hickman (US 5361361).

In regard to **claim 1**, Hickman discloses a method for producing a composite

help view for an aggregation of applications, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining at least two separate help documents, each of said at least two

separate help documents having an association with a corresponding one of separate

interface units aggregated together into a single aggregated view *(Fig 5, Fig 6 and*

Column 7 lines 38-59: In Figure 5 Hickman shows two applications aggregated into one

display screen. Further Hickman discusses for each application within the system,

accessing the help file directory and extracting the help topic and subtopic descriptors);

combining said at least two separate help documents into a composition of help

documents corresponding to said single aggregated view *(Fig 6 and Column 7 lines 38-*

59: Hickman discusses running a loop until all applications help files have been

obtained and provided to the help utility window);

and, rendering said composition of help documents in a help system view

responsive to a request for help initiated in said single aggregated view *(Column 7 lines*

31-34 and lines 59-62: Hickman discusses the use of help utility window for displaying

the help topics associated with the given application on a system).

In regard to **claim 2**, Hickman discloses a method wherein said rendering step

further comprises the steps loading an index produced from a navigation view disposed

within said single aggregated view *(Column 7 lines 35-37: Hickman discusses*

generating a list based on programs currently installed on system);

forming a help system navigation view based upon said index *(Column 7 lines 50-53: Hickman discusses maintaining a window position for each topic or subtopic)*;

and, rendering said help system navigation view along with said rendering of said composition of help documents *(Column 7 lines 59-64)*.

In regard to **claim 3**, Hickman discloses a method wherein said rendering step comprises the step of rendering both a view of said composition of help documents, and individual views of said separate help documents *(Column 6 lines 64-66)*.

In regard to **claim 5**, Hickman discloses a method further comprising the steps of:

updating said single aggregated view to include at least one different interface unit *(Column 2 lines 20-26 and Figure 5: It is inherent that as many applications as necessary can be opened at one time on the screen shown in figure 5)*;

changing said composition of help documents to include a new separate help document corresponding to said at least one different interface unit *(Column 2 lines 20-26)*;

and, rendering said changed composition of help documents in a help system view responsive to a request for help initiated in said updated single aggregated view *(Column 7 lines 31-34 and lines 59-62: Hickman discusses the use of help utility window for displaying the help topics associated with the given applications on a*

system. It is inherently shown that when a new application is installed, the help file will

display this new application).

In regard to **claim 11**, Hickman discloses a machine readable storage having

stored theron a computer program for producing help view for an aggregation of

applications, the computer program comprising a routine set of instructions which when

executed by the machine cause the machine to perform the steps of *(Column 3 lines 3-*

4 and Figure 1: It is inherent for the operation of this system to contain machine code

within the data storage device or on a disk to be used in the disk drive :

obtaining at least two separate help documents, each of said at least two

separate help documents having an association with a corresponding one of separate

interface units aggregated together into a single aggregated view *(Fig 5, Fig 6 and*

Column 7 lines 38-59: In Figure 5 Hickman shows two applications aggregated into one

display screen. Further Hickman discusses for each application within the system,

accessing the help file directory and extracting the help topic and subtopic descriptors);

combining said at least two separate help documents into a composition of help

documents corresponding to said single aggregated view *(Fig 6 and Column 7 lines 38-*

59: Hickman discusses running a loop until all applications help files have been

obtained and provided to the help utility window);

and, rendering said composition of help documents in a help system view

responsive to a request for help initiated in said single aggregated view *(Column 7 lines*

31-34 and lines 59-62: Hickman discusses the use of help utility window for displaying

the help topics associated with the given application on a system).

In regard to **claim 12**, Hickman discloses a machine readable storage wherein

said rendering step further comprises the steps of:

loading an index produced from a navigation view disposed within said single

aggregated view *(Column 7 lines 35-37: Hickman discusses generating a list based on*

programs currently installed on system);

forming a help system navigation view based upon said index *(Column 7 lines*

50-53: Hickman discusses maintaining a window position for each topic or subtopic);

and, rendering said help system navigation view along with said rendering of said

composition of help documents *(Column 7 lines 59-64)*.

In regard to **claim 13**, Hickman discloses a machine readable storage wherein

said rendering step comprises the step of rendering both a view of said composition of

help documents, and individual views of said separate help documents *(Column 6 lines*

64-66).

In regard to **claim 15**, Hickman discloses a machine readable storage further

comprising the steps of:

updating said single aggregated view to include at least one different interface

unit *(Column 2 lines 20-26 and Figure 5: It is inherent that as many applications as*

necessary can be opened at one time on the screen shown in figure 5);

changing said composition of help documents to include a new separate help

document corresponding to said at least one different interface unit *(Column 2 lines 20-*

26);

and, rendering said changed composition of help documents in a help system

view responsive to a request for help initiated in said updated single aggregated view

(Column 7 lines 31-34 and lines 59-62: Hickman discusses the use of help utility

window for displaying the help topics associated with the given applications on a

system. It is inherently shown that when a new application is installed, the help file will

display this new application).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains..
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 4 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Hickman (US 5361361) and further in view of Palaniappan (US 2002/0054152 A1).

        In regard to **claim 4**, Hickman discloses rendering a help system view *(Figure 5:*

The bookcase is considered to be the help system view), activating a rendering of said

view of said composition of help documents responsive to a selection *(Column 5 lines*

55-63) and otherwise activating a rendering of a single one of said separate help

documents responsive to selection *(Column 6 lines 37- 47)*. Hickman fails to disclose

"obtaining image map of said single aggregated view", "rendering said image map" and

"selection of a portion of said image map". However Palaniappan discloses obtaining

image map of said single aggregated view *(Paragraph 0049)*, rendering said image map

(Paragraph 0049 and Fig 6: Palaniappan discusses "how the user can see"), and

selection of a portion of said image map *(Paragraph 0050)*. Hickman and Palaniappan

are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of presenting

information to a user in the form of a list or menu. Therefore at the time of the invention

it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of

Hickman and Palaniappan to obtain an image map and apply it to the help system. The

motivation to combine would have been to determine what application are present in the

given aggregated document and displaying them to the user in a clickable map.

        In regard to **claim 14**, claim 14 incorporates all the same limitations of the

method claim 4, so therefore is rejected on the same grounds of claim 4.

5.   Claim 7, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Hickman (US 5361361) and further in view of Hesmer (US 6918090).

        In regard to **claim 7**, Hickman discloses a system for producing a composite help

view for an aggregation of applications comprising:

        a help system configured to render a help system view comprising composite

help documentation comprising at least two help documents, each of said at least two

help documents corresponding to one of said individual interface units *(Figure 5);*

        and help invoking logic couples to said help system and disposed in said single

aggregated view *(Column 7 lines 14-29).*

Hickman fails to disclose "an application aggregator configured to aggregate individual

interface units into a single aggregated view". However, Hesmer discloses an

aggregator configured to aggregate individual interface units into a single aggregated

view *(Column 6 lines 19-21).* Hickman and Hesmer are analogous art because they are

both from the same field of endeavor of user interactive computer systems with

improved navigation of content. Therefore at the time of the invention it would have

been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of Hickman and Hesmer

to create an aggregated document with a corresponding help system. The motivation

for doing so is to provide an alternate and more efficient embodiment of the invention by

Hickman.

In regard to **claim 8**, Hickman fails to disclose a system wherein said individual interface units are application portlets, wherein said single aggregated view is a portal, and wherein said application aggregator is disposed within a portal server. However, Hesmer discloses individual interface units are application portlets *(Column 6 line 12)*, single aggregated view is a portal *(Column 6 lines 23-25)*, and wherein said application aggregator is disposed within a portal server *(Column 6 lines 23-32)*. Hickman and Hesmer are analogous art because they are both from the same field of endeavor of user interactive computer systems with improved navigation of content. Therefore at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Hickman and Hesmer to create a system that can create an aggregated document and its corresponding help documents. The motivation for doing so is to provide an alternate and more efficient embodiment of the invention by Hickman.

In regard to **claim 10**, Hickman discloses a system wherein said help system further comprises a configuration for generating a personalized bookshelf for said at least two help documents *(Figure 5 Bookcase)*.

6.   Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hickman (US 5361361) in view of Hesmer (US 6918090) and further in view of Microsoft Computer Dictionary 5th edition.

In regard to **claim 9**, Hickman and Hesmer fail to disclose "a system wherein said help system is configured as a plug-in to an integrated development environment." However Microsoft discloses a plug-in. Therefore at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use the teachings of Microsoft to provide integration of the disclosed invention into a larger application that lacks the given functionality. The motivation to combine would have been to provide added functionality to a larger application.

7.   Claims 6 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hickman and further in view of official notice.

In regard to **claims 6 and 16**, Hickman fails to disclose restricting help information in said composition of help documents for a particular user to reflect restrictions in said single aggregated view imposed upon said user. However, it is well known in the art that users of particular computer systems are sometimes restricted from accessing certain programs. Therefore if a user is restricted from using a certain program it would be obvious to restrict help files associated with the particular program. The motivation to combine would be to maintain the security of the system and prevent users from accessing material they do not have the privileges to see.
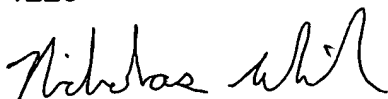
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas S. Ulrich whose telephone number is 571-270-1397. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 - 5:00 EST Off every other friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chameli Das can be reached on 571-272-3696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nicholas Ulrich
11/28/2006
1226

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